

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05

EB-07 /079 W

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R 071834Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0414

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LAPAZ

USCINCSO

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 0059

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CI, PA, UY

SUBJECT: FONMIN SAYS REGIONAL INTEGRATION EFFORTS TO  
CONTINUE: STROESSNER AND PINOCHET TO VISIT URUGUAY

REFS: (A) 75 MONTEVIDEO 3297, (B) 75 MONTEVIDEO A-71 (NOTAL)

1. IN A BRIEF YEAR-END INTERVIEW, FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO TOLD REPORTERS THE UNPRECEDENTED NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL MEETINGS DURING 1975 (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE, BOLIVIA, AND PARAGUAY) WERE NOT MERELY CONTACTS OF CHIEFS OF STATE, BUT THAT EACH ONE MARKED THE SIGNING OF IMPORTANT AGREEMENTS WHICH FURTHERED THE INTEGRATION OF THE REGION.

2. THE FONMIN STATED THAT THE GOU WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF AN "EXTRAORDINARILY ACTIVE" YEAR WHICH HAD MADE URUGUAY'S INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE FELT. HE ADDED THAT  
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AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED WERE IN LINE WITH A POLICY INITIATED

IN 1973 TO "OPEN OUR COUNTRY TO THE OUTSIDE." 1976, SAID BLANCO, WILL BE A YEAR OF BROADENING THESE OPENINGS WITH OTHER AREAS OF THE HEMISPHERE AND CONSOLIDATING OPENINGS (PRESUMABLY IN THE SOUTHERN CONE AND WITH BRAZIL AND PARAGUAY) ALREADY MADE. IT IS THE GOU'S INTENTION TO NEGOTIATE CONDITIONS APPROPRIATE FOR COMMERCE BUT GIVING THEM SUBSTANCE LIES WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR "TO WHICH WE WILL GIVE MOST DECIDED SUPPORT."

3. COMMENT: THE PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT PRESIDENTS STROESSNER AND PINOCHET WILL VISIT URUGUAY FEBRUARY 3 AND 18, RESPECTIVELY, ALTHOUGH THE DATES ARE NOT YET CONFIRMED OFFICIALLY. DURING THE VISIT OF STROESSNER IT IS EXPECTED THAT A TRADE AGREEMENT, WHICH DID NOT MATERIALIZE DURING BORDABERRY'S MAY 1975 VISIT TO ASUNCION, WILL BE SIGNED. IN ADDITION, OTHER AGREEMENTS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND BI-NATIONAL FIRMS MAY BE SIGNED. ALL OF THIS DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IS RELATED TO THE GOU'S FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVE OF FORGING A SERIES OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL TIES AMONG SOUTHERN CONE STATES, TIES WHICH IT IS HOPED WILL EVENTUALLY PROMOTE INTEGRATION WITHIN THE REGION. BLANCO ALSO SEEMED TO BE SIGNALLING SOME EXPANSION OF THESE EFFORTS TO OTHER AREAS, TYING THEM TO THE GOU'S CONTINUING EMPHASIS ON PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT. SIRACUSA

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MONTEV00059  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760005-0976  
**From:** MONTEVIDEO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760180/aaaacsxp.tel  
**Line Count:** 87  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 MONTEVIDEO 3297, 76 MONTEVIDEO A-71  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** castelsl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by barnescd>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by castelsl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FONMIN SAYS REGIONAL INTEGRATION EFFORTS TO CONTINUE: STROESSNER AND PINOCHET TO VISIT URUGUAY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CI, PA, UY, (STROESSNER, ALFREDO), (PINOCHET)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006